



# Island County Environmental Health Initiative (ICEHI)

*Using the PACE-EH process to assess Island County environmental health needs with a goal of increasing capacity in Environmental Health*

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Funded by the National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

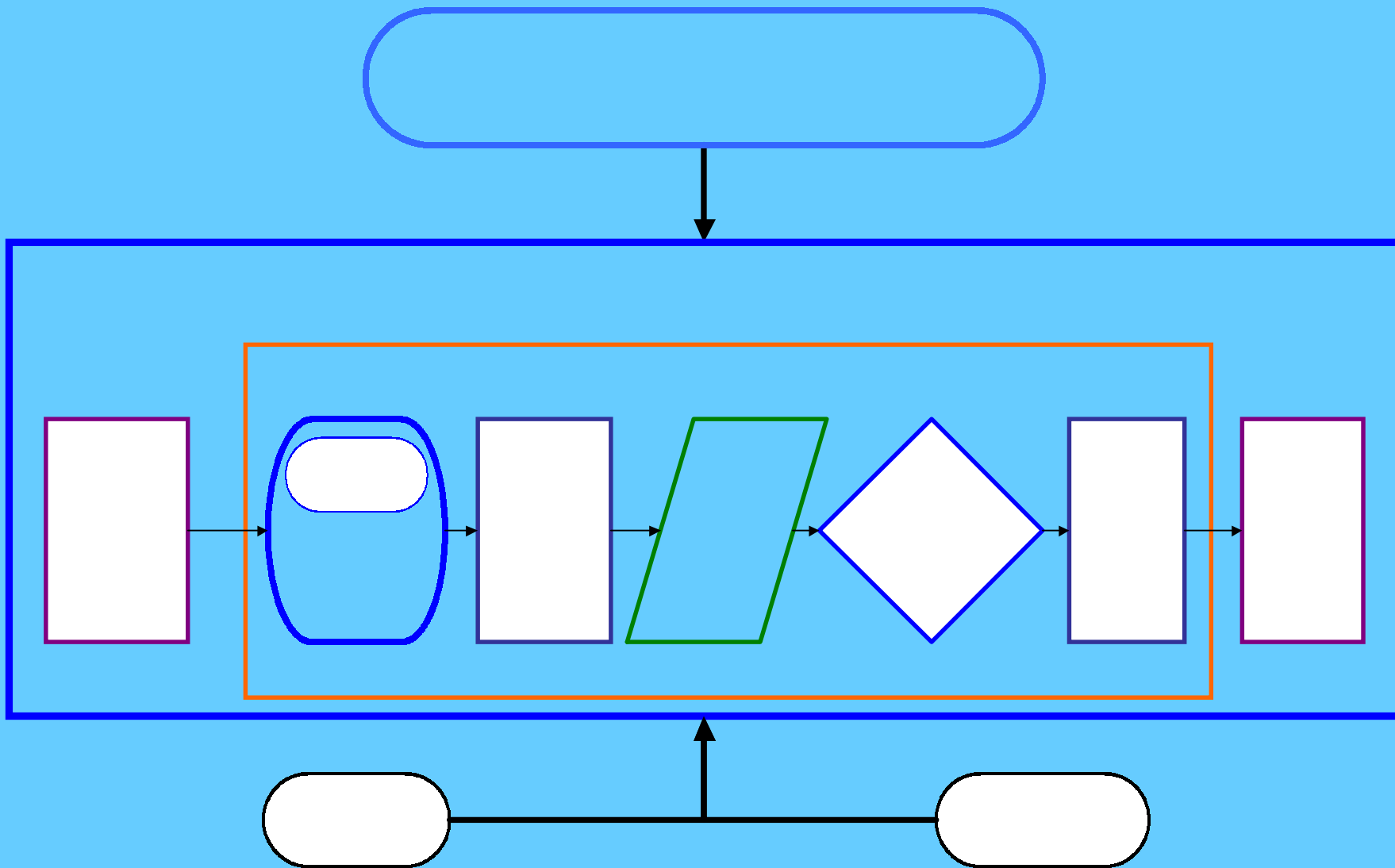


# History of Project

Island County Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) developed an environmental health task force

*PACE-EH (Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health)* chosen by ICHD as preferred assessment tool

CHAB/ICHD jointly pursued grant funding from CDC





# Underlying Philosophy of PACE-EH

Community Collaboration

Equity

Local Health Official as Convener



# *PACE EH* Process

Provides:

- Constituency-building

- Assessment function

- Match resources to needs

- Power-sharing with the community

- Focus on local situations and solutions

- Ground-up policy development process

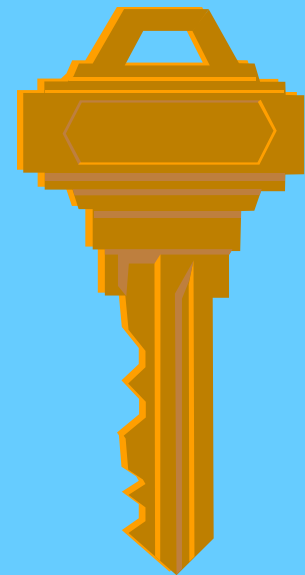
- Database development

# Key Objectives of *PACE EH*

Evaluate Environmental  
Health Conditions

Target Populations at  
Risk

Set Priorities





# Island County Environmental Health Initiative (ICEHI)

## Objectives:

- Implement a community-based environmental health assessment (using *PACE-EH*)
- Measure a wide range of environmental health indicators
- Increase data storage and retrieval capacity
- Make policy recommendations
- Develop new relationships with the public
- Educate staff and community
- Increase capacity in 10 Essential Services



# Where are we at now?

## Defining our community (Island County)

- Ensure diverse representation on the Environmental Health Assessment Team

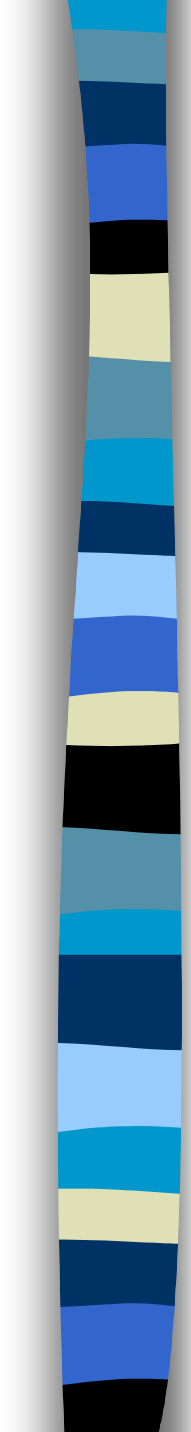
## Determining the current capacity within our Community

- Determine what resources and skills are already available in our community

## Mobilizing a Community-based Environmental Health Assessment Team

- Steering Committee is guiding process
- Environmental Health Assessment Team members have been selected (25-28 members)





# Baseline Status 10 Essential EH Services: Internal Capacity Audit

Dedicated, and knowledgeable staff

Data collection, storage and retrieval is inconsistent

Most programs are regulatory in nature and lack of opportunity for community input



# Challenges & Barriers

Clarification and acceptance of roles, responsibilities & relationships between staff, steering committee & community advisory board

Selection of community advisory board members who are representative of community

Communicating benefits of using a community-based model



# Successes & Accomplishments

Community members have been actively engaged in the project

Outreach & Awareness generated through media campaign and meeting with community groups

Completed capacity evaluations within the Health Department and also on a community-wide basis



# Summary

The Island County Environmental Health Initiative uses the PACE-EH process to:

Build relationships with the community

Involve the community in assessing and prioritizing Environmental Health needs in Island County based on data

Increase capacity in the 10 Essential Environmental Health Services within Island County